Occult Novels

as

Theosophical Propaganda

Compiled by James Taylor

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OCCULT NOVELS AS THEOSOPHICAL PROPAGANDA

The use of occult novels as theosophical propaganda has been largely overlooked by the Society in the past, due probably to the fact that few members realize the large number of first class novels that deal with one or more phases of occultism.

Here is a line of approach to the public that the Society should use extensively, for through the novel a pleasant and popular treatment of many theosophical teachings can be given and the interest of thousands of people stimulated, who would remain entirely indifferent to more serious arguments along similar lines.

Individual members have already proved the value of these books and some lodges have used them as propaganda material with good results, but throughout the Society generally this promising field has not been developed to anything like the extent its importance deserves.

It may be pointed out that for nearly a century the novel has been recognized as a powerful factor in changing the current of men's thoughts and many changes in outlook, as well as practical social and political reforms, have been accomplished through its influence.

An outstanding example of its power was seen in the case of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe, wherein the graphic portrayal of the evils of slavery did an immense service in creating a public opinion favourable to Lincoln, and in this way assisted materially in the emancipation of the negroes in the Southern States.

Dickens, by means of a series of powerful novels, was instrumental in bringing about many reforms in the social life of Britain, and Charles Reade through his masterpiece, *It Is Never Too Late to Mend,* succeeded in instituting far-reaching changes in the English Prison system.

These are only a few out of many instances that might be given, but they go to show what a great power the novel has had already in moulding public opinion, and possibly this same influence may be used in the future in arousing interest regarding the "Unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in Man."

That this is not too optimistic a hope may be judged from the fact that while an increasing interest in occult matters is everywhere apparent, nowhere is this growth of interest more marked than in the realm of fiction. Each year new additions are made to the number of novelists who introduce one or more phases of the occult into their books, and in many cases it is obvious that

the authors are serious students giving to the world the results of their studies.

Theosophists, in becoming familiar with some of the best of these books, will provide themselves with enjoyable literary entertainment and will be able to use them as propaganda material with much greater effect.

Experience has shown that if an individual can be persuaded to read a few occult novels, many prejudices will disappear, new and larger conceptions of man and the universe will arise in the reader's mind and the way will be opened for the real study of theosophical books.

Each theosophical lending library should have a selection of these novels on its shelves, and efforts should be made to have some placed in the public libraries in all localities where theosophical lodges function. In nearly every public library there is a suggestion-book and good work can be accomplished by entering in this book from time to time a few of the novels not already listed in the library catalogue. By this method of "peaceful penetration" much good may be achieved without the odium of direct propaganda and a much larger public reached without additional expense to the local lodge.

The following list of two hundred novels, each dealing with one or more phases of occultism, has been compiled to assist members who wish to utilize this great medium for the spreading of theosophical teachings. The list is by no means complete, being limited to the reading and personal tastes of the compiler and a few friends. It marks a beginning, however, to which additions can be made later.

An asterisk (*) is placed before those titles which are considered to be most suitable for propaganda purposes, and from which members, probably, will derive the greatest pleasure. Some of the other titles are not so suitable for beginners and might even have a repelling effect, but a majority of them will prove of interest to more advanced students.

Author	*Title*	*Publisher*
Arnold, E. L.	*Phra the Phoenician*	Putnam's.
Bagot, Richard	*Darneley Place*	Brentanos.
Barclay, Florence L	*The Upas Tree*	Putnam's.
"	*Returned Empty*	Putnam's.
Barnett, Ada	*Man on the Other Side*	Dodd Mead & Co.
Beck, L. Adams	*Key of Dreams*	"
"	*The Ninth Vibration*	"
"	**Perfume of the Rainbow*	"
"	**Treasure of Ho*	"
"	**The Splendour of Asia*	"
"	*Dreams and Delights*	"
"	*The House of Fulfillment*	"

Author	*Title*	*Publisher*
Belasco, David	**The Return of Peter Grimm*	Harcourt.
Bennett, Arnold	**The Glimpse*	Chapman & Hall.
"	*The Ghost*	Chatto.
Benson, A. C	**Child of the Dawn*	Putnam's.
"	*Basin Netherby*	Hutchinson & Co.
Benson, E. F	*The Image in the Sand*	Lippincott.
"	*Visible and Invisible*	Hutchinson & Co.
Benson, R. H	**The Light Invisible*	"
"	*Initiation*	Dodd.
"	**None Other Gods*	Hutchinson & Co.
Blackwood, Algernon	*The Empty House*	Knopf.
"	*The Listener*	Dutton.
"	**John Silence*	"
"	*The Lost Valley*	Knopf.
"	*Jimbo*	John M. Watkins.
"	**The Human Chord*	
"	*The Centaur*	
"	**Julius Le Vallon*	Dutton.
"	*Day and Night Stories*	
"	*A Prisoner in Fairyland*	Macmillan.
"	*The Bright Messenger*	Dutton.
"	*Garden of Survival*	"
"	*Tongues of Fire*	"
Blavatsky, H. P	*Nightmare Tales*	Theo. Pub. House.
Bo'ld, Paul	*The Temple of Dreams*	
Boothby, Guy	*Dr. Nikola's Experiment*	Westbrook.
Bowen, Marjorie	*Black Magic*	Lane.
"	*The Haunted Vintage*	Nelson.
Brandon, Henry	**The Afterdeath*	
Brodie-Innes, J. W	*The Devil's Mistress*	Rider & Co.
"	*For the Soul of a Witch*	"
"	*Morag the Seal*	"
Burnett, Frances H	**The White People*	
"	*In the Closed Room*	
Charles, M	**The Tear and the Smile*	
Collins, Mabel	**The Idyll of the White Lotus*	Theo. Pub. House.
"	**The Blossom and the Fruit*	"
"	*The Locked Room*	"
Collins, Mortimer	*Transmigration*	
Colton, Abigail	*The Tale of Christopher*	
Comfort, Will Levington	*Routledge Rides Alone*	Lippincott.
"	*She Buildeth Her House*	"
"	*Fate Knocks at the Door*	"
"	*Son of Power*	
Corelli, Marie	*Romance of Two Worlds*	Burt.
"	**Ardath*	Burt.
"	*The Soul of Lilith*	Methuen & Co.
"	*The Sorrows of Satan*	Lippincott.
"	**The Life Everlasting*	Grosset.
Couch, Sir A. Quiller	*Old Fires and Profitable Ghosts*	
Couperus, Louis	**The Hidden Force*	Dodd.
Crawford, F. Marion	**Mr. Isaacs*	Macmillan.
Dawson, Coningsby W.	**The Unknown Country*	
Dawson-Scott, Mrs. C. A	*Haunting*	Knopf.

Author	*Title*	*Publisher*
De La Mare, W. J	*The Return*	Knopf.
"	*The Riddle and Other Tales*	"
DeMorgan, William	*Alice for Short*	Grosset.
Desmond, Frank	*A Far Cry*	
Dickens, Charles	**A Christmas Carol*	Dutton.
Doyle, Sir A. Conan	*The Mystery of Cloomber*	
"	*The Horror on the Heights*	Doubleday.
DuMaurier, George	*Peter Ibbetson*	Harper.
"	*Trilby*	"
"	*The Martian*	"
Everett, Mrs. H. D	*The Death Mask and Other Ghosts*	
Filkin, Roland	*Agar Halfi, The Mystic*	
Flammarion, Camille	**Urania*	
Fouque, Fred H. De-LaMotte	**Undine*	Dutton.
Garver, Will E	**Brother of the Third Degree*	Purdy.
Haggard, Sir H. Rider	**She*	Longmans.
"	**Ayesha*	Doubleday.
"	*Wisdom's Daughter*	"
"	**Cleopatra*	Longmans.
"	*Allan and the Ice Gods*	Doubleday.
"	**Love Eternal*	Longmans.
"	**The Mahatma and the Hare*	
"	*When the World Shook*	Longmans.
"	*The Wanderer's Necklace*	"
Haggard, Rider, and Lang, Andrew	**The World's Desire*	"
Hartmann, Dr. Franz	*The Talking Image of Urur*	
Hawthorne, Julian	*Archibald Malmaison*	
"	*Six Cent Sam's*	Dutton.
Hawthorne, Nathaniel.	*The Blithedale Romance*	
Hewlett, Maurice	**Lore of Proserpine*	Scribner.
Hichens, Robert	*Flames*	Heinemann.
"	*The Dweller on the Threshold*	Methuen.
"	*Mrs. Marden*	Cassell.
"	*Tongues of Conscience*	Methuen.
Howard, Maude L	**Myriam and the Mystic Brotherhood*	
Hume, Fergus	**A Son of Perdition*	
"	*The Blue Talisman*	Grosset.
Irvine, A. M	**The Dreams of Orlow*	
James, Henry	*The Two Magics*	Macmillan.
"	*The Soft Side*	
Johnson, Lindsay	*Weird Adventures of Professor Delapine of The Sorbonne*	Routledge.
Kipling, Rudyard	**Many Inventions* (Containing *The Finest Story in the World*)	Doubleday.
"	**They*, and *The Brushwood Boy*	"
"	*Kim*	"
"	*Wee Willie Winkie* (Containing *The Phantom Rickshaw*)	"
"	*Plain Tales from the Hills* (Containing *By Word of Mouth*)	"

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Author	*Title*	*Publisher*
Kipling, Rudyard	*Life's Handicap* (Containing *The Mark of the Beast* and *The Return of Imray*)	Doubleday.
"	*Puck of Pook's Hill*	"
"	*Rewards and Fairies*	"
"	*Actions and Reactions* (Containing *The House Surgeon*)	"
Lagerlof, Selma	*Elsa*	Doubleday.
Larsen, Johannes A	*Philosophers Stone*	Knopf.
Leadbeater, C. W	**The Perfume of Egypt*	Theo. Pub. House.
LeFanu, J. Sheridan	*In a Glass Darkly*	Watkins.
Lloyd, John Uri	*Etidorhpa*	Dodd.
London, Jack	**The Star Rover*	Macmillan.
Long, M. Van Norman	*The Canyon of the Stars*	Fischer.
Lytton, E. Bulwer	*The Pilgrims of the Rhine*	Dutton.
"	**Zanoni*	Little.
"	*The Haunted & the Haunters*	Routledge.
"	*A Strange Story*	
"	**The Coming Race*	Routledge.
McCarthy, Justin Huntly	*The Dryad*	
MacDonald, George	**Phantases*	Dutton.
"	**Lilith*	"
"	**The Portent*	Chatto.
Machen, Arthur	*House of Souls*	Knopf.
MacLeod, Fiona	**Pharais*	Duffield.
"	**The Mountain Lovers*	"
"	*The Sin Eater*	"
"	**The Washer of the Ford*	"
"	*Green Fire*	"
"	*From the Hills of Dream*	"
"	**The Divine Adventure*	"
"	*The Sunset of Old Tales*	"
Malet, Lucas	*The Gateless Barrier*	Dodd.
"	*The Tall Villa*	Collins.
Manzoni, Alessandro	*The Betrothed*	Macmillan.
Martin, Eva M	**The Secret of a Star*	Theo. Pub. House.
Maturin, Chas. Robt	*Melmoth the Wanderer*	
Mitchell, John Ames	**Dr. Thorne's Idea*	
Moffatt, Cleveland	**Through the Wall*	Appleton.
Morris, William	*The Wood Beyond the World*	Longmans.
"	*The Well at the World's End*	"
Mundy, Talbot	**Om; The Secret of Ahbor Valley*	Burt.
Newbolt, Henry John	*The Old Country*	
O'Donnell, Elliott	*The Sorcery Club*	Rider.
Oliphant, Margaret	*A Beleaguered City*	Macmillan.
"	*A Little Pilgrim in the Unseen*	"
"	*The Land of Darkness*	
"	*Stories of the Seen and Unseen*	
Overton, Grant Martin	*Thousand and First Night*	Doubleday.
Peeke, Mrs. Margaret B.	**Born of Flame*	
Phylos (Fred S. Oliver)	*A Dweller on Two Planets*	Dutton.

Author	*Title*	*Publisher*
Praed, Mrs. R. C. Campbell	*As a Watch in the Night*	
"	**Nyria*	
"	*The Body of His Desire*	
"	*The Mystery Woman*	
"	*Affinities*	
Prospero & Caliban (Fr. Rolfe)	**The Weird of the Wanderer*	
Rea, Hope	*The Possession of Elizabeth*	Theo. Pub. House.
Reid, Forrest	*Pender Among the Residents*	Houghton.
Saben, Gregory	*The Sorcerer*	
Sand, George	*Consuelo*	Burt.
"	*Countess of Rudolstadt*	
Schreiner, Olive	**Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland*	Unwin.
"	**Dream Life and Real Life*	"
Schure, Edouard	**The Priestess of Isis*	
Scott, Firth	*Possessed*	Rider.
Simpson, Helen	*Baseless Fabric*	Knopf.
Sinnett, A. P	*Karma*	Theo. Pub. House.
Smith, Paul Jordan	*Nomad*	
Stevens, James	*The Demi-Gods*	Macmillan.
"	*The Crock of Gold*	"
Stevenson, R. L	*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*	Burt.
"	*The Merry Men & Other Tales*	Scribner.
Stoker, Bram	*Dracula*	Doubleday.
"	*The Jewel of Seven Stars*	Harper.
"	*The Lair of the White Worm*	Rider.
"	*The Lady of the Shroud*	"
Tolstoy, Leo	**Where Love is, There God is Also*	Crowell.
Urquhart, M	*The Island of Souls*	
Vachell, Horace A	**The Other Side*	Nelson.
Van Der Naillen, A	**On the Heights of Himalay*	
"	**In the Sanctuary*	
"	*Balthazar the Magus*	
Wales, Hubert	**The Thirty Days*	
Wells, H. G	*The Time Machine*	Holt.
"	**The Dream*	Macmillan.
"	**Tales of the Unexpected*	Collins.
Wood, Michael	**The Saint and the Outlaw*	
"	*The Riddle*	
"	**The White Island*	Dutton.
Yulee, C. Wickliffe	*Overshadowed*	Rider.

The addresses of American and British publishers are given below, though in practice books should be ordered through the Theosophical Press, Wheaton, Illinois, or the Canadian Theosophical Book Depot, 878 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B. C.

American Publishers

Appleton & Co., D	29-35 West 32nd St	New York.
Brentanos	225 5th Ave	New York.
Burt & Co., A. L	114-120 East 23rd St	New York.

American Publishers—Continued

Crowell Co., T. Y	393 4th Ave	New York.
Dodd Mead & Co	443 4th Ave	New York.
Doubleday Doran & Co		Garden City, N. Y.
Duffield & Co	200 Madison Ave	New York.
Dutton & Co., E. P	286-302 4th Ave	New York.
Fischer Corp., David		Hollywood, Cal.
Grosset & Dunlap	1140 Broadway	New York.
Harcourt Brace & Co	383 Madison Ave	New York.
Harper & Bros	49 East 33rd St	New York.
Holt & Co., Henry	1 Park Ave. Bldg	New York.
Houghton Mifflin Co	2 Park St	Boston, Mass.
Knopf, Alfred A	730 5th Ave	New York.
Lippincott Co., J. B	227-231 E. Wash. Sq	Philadelphia, Pa.
Little Brown & Co	34 Beacon St	Boston, Mass.
Longmans Green & Co	55 5th Ave	New York.
MacMillan Co., The	60 5th Ave	New York.
Nelson & Sons, Thomas	381-385 4th Ave	New York.
Purdy Publishing Co		Chicago.
Putnam's, Sons, G. P	2-6 W. 45th St	New York.
Scribner's Sons, Charles	597 5th Ave	New York.
Theosophical Pub. House		Wheaton, Ill.
Westbrook Co., The Arthur	Athens & Halstead Sts.	Cleveland, Ohio.

British Publishers

Cassell & Co., Ld	La Belle Sauvage	London, E. C. 4.
Chapman & Hall	11 Henrietta St	London, W. C. 2.
Chatto & Windus	97-99 St. Martin's Lane	London, W. C. 2.
Collins & Co., Ld., W	48 Pall Mall	London, S. W. 1.
Heinemann, Ld., Wm	99 Gt. Russell St	London, W. C. 1.
Hutchinson & Co	34 Paternoster Row	London, E. C. 4.
Lane, Ld., John	Vigo Street	London, W. 1.
Methuen & Co	36 Essex Street	London, W. C. 2.
Rider & Co., Wm	34 Paternoster Row	London, E. C. 4.
Routledge & Sons, Ld	68-74 Carter Lane	London, E. C. 4.
Unwin, Ld., T. F	154 Fleet St	London, E. C. 4.
Watkins, J. M	21 Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road	London, W. C. 2.

Any suggestions towards a more complete list in the future, giving author, title of novel, and name of publisher, and the phases of occultism dealt with, will be gratefully received by James Taylor, Hermes Lodge T. S., 878 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B. C.